

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MAINE**

**WILMINGTON TRUST NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION**
Plaintiff

v.

MELANIE B. HOWE, et al.,
Defendants.

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CIVIL NO. 2:24-cv-00354-NT

SCHEDULING ORDER with incorporated Rule 26(f) Order

In accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 16(b) and the Cost and Delay Reduction Plan for the District of Maine, the Court proposes this Order as the Scheduling Order in this case and hereby forwards it to counsel or unrepresented parties for consultation. Counsel and unrepresented parties shall confer as required by Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(f). Unless an objection to this Order and a proposed discovery plan are filed by April 10, 2025, the Court will conclude that the required Rule 26(f) conference has taken place and that the terms and deadlines established in this proposed scheduling order have been agreed to. An objection to this Order shall contain a detailed explanation of the reasons for each requested alteration of this Order. If no objection is timely filed, this Order shall constitute the Court's Scheduling Order under Fed.R.Civ.P. 16(b).

Track Assignment: This case has been assigned to the Standard Track. Discovery is limited to not more than 30 interrogatories per opposing side (subparts not permitted); 30 requests for admission per opposing side; 2 sets of requests for production per opposing side; and 5 depositions per side.

Subject Matter Jurisdiction: Diversity.

Jury Trial: Not Demanded.

Deadline for Conference of Parties Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P.26(f): April 3, 2025 Inadvertent disclosure of privileged or trial preparation material shall be governed by the principles of Federal Rule of Evidence 502, Rule 4.4B of the Maine Rules of Professional Conduct, and Local Rule 83.3(e).

Deadline for Initial Disclosure Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P.26(a)(1): April 17, 2025

Deadline for Amendment of the Pleadings and Joinder of Parties: June 5, 2025

Plaintiff(s) shall designate experts required to be disclosed by Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(2)(A) (including treating physicians and other non-retained or specially employed experts) and, with respect to each of them, provide a complete statement of all opinions to be expressed and the basis and reasons therefor by: June 5, 2025

Defendant(s) shall designate experts required to be disclosed by Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(2)(A) (including treating physicians and other non-retained or specially employed experts) and, with respect to each of them, provide a complete statement of all opinions to be expressed and the basis and reasons therefor by: July 10, 2025

If the expert is retained or specially employed to provide expert testimony in the case or the expert's duties as an employee of a party regularly involve giving expert testimony, the disclosure shall also include the other categories of information specified in Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(2)(B). All required information may, but need not, be provided in the form of a written report prepared and signed by the expert.

Deadline to Complete Discovery: August 7, 2025

Counsel are advised that absent some excusable circumstance, discovery initiatives must be undertaken so that the response of the opposing party is filed prior to the discovery deadline.

Deadline to file Notice of Intent to file Motion for Summary Judgment and Need for a Pre-Filing Conference Pursuant to Local Rule 56(h): August 14, 2025

Deadline for Filing of All Dispositive Motions and All *Daubert* and *Kumho* Motions¹

Challenging Expert Witnesses with Supporting Memoranda: August 28, 2025

Expected Trial Date: This case shall be ready for trial by November 3, 2025

Further Matters in Aid of Disposition: The plaintiff(s) shall make a written settlement demand upon the defendant(s) by July 24, 2025. The defendant(s) shall respond in writing by August 7, 2025.

Consent to the Magistrate Judge: The parties may consent to allow the Magistrate Judge to conduct all proceedings, to enter final orders and judgment, and to conduct any jury or non-jury trial as required in this case. The Magistrate Judges typically schedule the civil cases to which they are assigned for a specific trial date. If the parties consent to Magistrate Judge Karen Frink Wolf conducting all proceedings, the parties shall complete and file the consent form attached hereto, which form can also be found on the Courts website at [Forms | District of Maine | United States District Court \(uscourts.gov\)](#).

So ORDERED.

/s/ Karen Frink Wolf
U.S. Magistrate Judge

Dated: March 20, 2025.

¹ *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 579 (1993); *Kumho Tire Co. v. Carmichael*, 526 U.S. 137 (1999). Such motions shall include any challenges to lack of qualifications, scope of testimony and any other issues addressed by these decisions.

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CONSENT TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Understanding the right to trial before a District Judge, the parties to the above captioned civil matter additionally consent, pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 73(b), to allow Magistrate Judge Karen Frink Wolf to conduct any and all proceedings, to enter final orders and judgment, and to conduct any jury or non-jury trial as required in the instant action.

Counsel for Plaintiff(s):

Date:

Counsel for Defendant(s):

Date:

****NOTE: Return this form to the Clerk of Court only if it has been
executed by all parties in this case.****